



Scottish National Racing Pigeon Club

End of Season Review

The Seasons Winners

We were again very fortunate to have had another great seasons racing although the channel events once again turned out to be very hard affairs.

Despite the severity of these races there were some excellent performances put up by our members, one must remember that we are not a large organisation and the pigeons that take part in these races from over the channel are racing in small convoys have it all to do there is no drag involved what so ever to assist them and pull them up the road, these birds have to think for themselves to make it home to Scotland under difficult circumstances, I take nothing away and certainly mean no disrespect to the large organisations who send big numbers of entries because 500 miles is 500 miles in anyone's book no matter who you are and who you are racing with, it is a good pigeon that can score from the channel races and an exceptional one that can do it repeatedly therefore all fanciers whoever they race with that have been successful from their long distance events should be very proud of their achievements.

The first race of the year the **Wanstead Flats Inland National** on the 4th June was flown in a tough North East wind and was one of the hardest inland nationals to date, it was convincingly won by Herdry Brothers of

Hamilton who had a tremendous race taking the 1st and 2nd Open positions with two blue chec cocks "*How the West Was Won*" and

"Second Fiddle" with velocities of 1114 and 1051.

Section winners were B: Ben Veitch East Saltoun. C: J McKenzie Anstruther. D: A McNaughton Falkirk. E: Hendry Bros Hamilton. F: J Drummond Clydebank.

The Reims National Gold Medal race is the main event of our racing calendar held on the 24th June, this is the one we all want to win, and to have the honour of being presented with the superb gold medal. Despite the good weather conditions the race turned out very difficult as it was for all organisations in Scotland and England who were racing from France that day but it was to be won in true style by the multi national winning loft of Peter Virtue of Cockburnspath with his chec pied cock *Virtues Pride* on 1111 ypm this magnificent win was this great pigeon's 7th national position with 5 of these being from the channel, there were only 16 birds recorded on the day with 5 belonging to Peter the second open position went to Davy Whyte of Cardenden . The Section Winners were B: P W Virtue Cockburnspath. C: D Whyte Cardenden. D: J Mack Alloa. E: J Stokes Carstairs. F: I Lowe Gartcosh.

Fontenay National held on the 2nd July was another very hard race with only 8 birds on the night this time and top Kingdom fancier Davy Burns of Kirkcaldy had three of these in the clock to take the 1st 3rd and 7th open positions and first three in his section his winner a blue hen *Clare* doing 1241 ypm. This is the first time that the first three in section C has been won by the same fancier at the 500 mile mark and we were delighted that this was achieved by a fancier of Dave Burns calibre. The Section winners were B: B Kelly Chirnside. C: D Burns Kirkcaldy. D: J Mack Alloa. E: W Davidson & Son Coalburn. F: I Ross Kirkintilloch.

The final channel race of the season the **Arras National** was brought forward to Friday 15th July due to the impending weather conditions. The race turned out to be hard for some but not so for others who enjoyed excellent returns. P W Virtue ended a tremendous old bird season by winning 1st and 2nd Open 1353 and 1338 ypm respectively. Peters 1st open winner "*Golden Girl*" was 2nd Open last season winning the Yearling National and silver medal.

The Yearling National Our yearling national is incorporated in the last channel race of the season and this season we could not have had a more worthy winner in Brian Kelly of Chirnside with his check hen *Apple* Section Winners were. B P W Virtue Cockburnspath. C: J Ellis Wellbank. D: A McNaughton Falkirk. E: J Callan Lesmahagow. F: J Murdoch Clydebank.

The Peterborough Young Bird National

Liberated into a south west wind the convoy romped home in a very fast time with Adam Luke of Dunbar taking 1st and 2nd positions with his winner “*Lucky Lukey*” raced on darkness on 1767 ypm this was Adams second National win having won the Portsmouth Inland National in 2007.

The Section Winners were B: A & E Luke Dunbar. C: J Benvie Kirkcaldy. D: J Jack Falkirk. E: Dr J Salmond Shotts. F: J Murdoch Greenock.

Average Winners

The Overall Average was deservedly won by Brian Kelly of Chirnside Berwickshire, this was a fitting tribute to Brian who has had a very consistent and excellent season. Runner up was Davy Burns of Kirkcaldy.

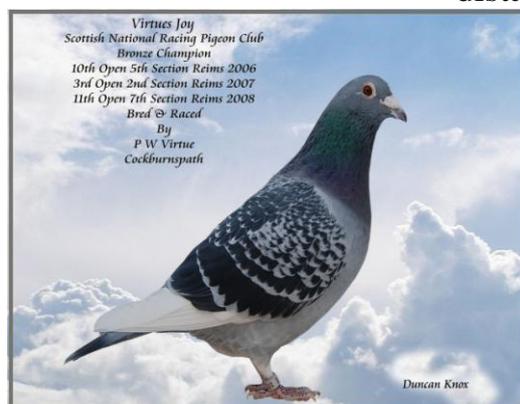
Extreme Distance Average Winner, Davy Burns Kirkcaldy, another very well deserved winner concluding a tremendous season. Runner up this time was Ben Veitch of East Saltoun East Lothian a young fancier with all the qualities required to look forward to great future in the sport.

Section Averages Section B winner is Brian Kelly Chirnside. Section D winner Dave Burns Kirkcaldy. Section E winners W Davidson & Son Coalburn. Section F winner Ian Ross Kirkintilloch.

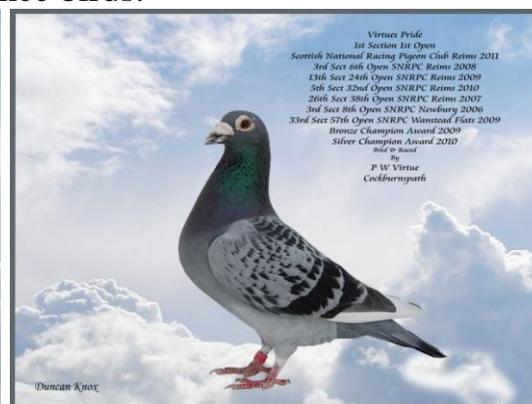
Champion Awards

Season 2010 saw a further eight Champion Awards presented at the annual dinner and presentation night in January all won from our long distance events to add to the previous years outstanding 21 winners in the inaugural year of our Champion Awards.

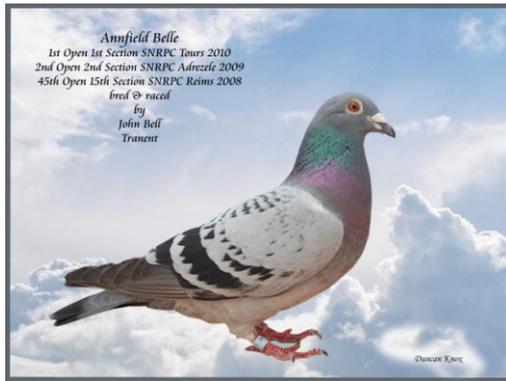
The winners were Peter Virtue Cockburnspath (2 Silver, 1 Bronze) Norman Renton Foulden (Bronze) Gary Hall Thornton (Bronze) Wilf Flockhart Tranent(Bronze) W&M Smith Macmerry (Bronze) John Bell Tranent (Bronze). Tremendous performances by every one of these great distance birds.



Silver Champion P W Virtue



Silver Champion P W Virtue



Bronze Champion J Bell



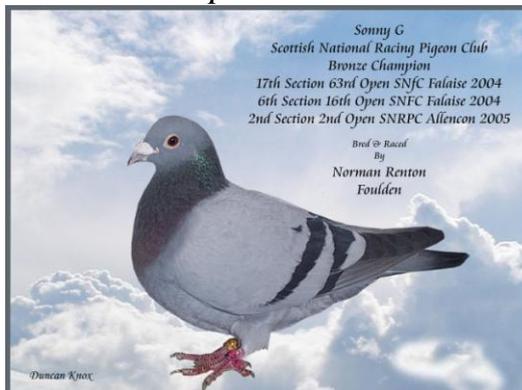
Bronze Champion W Flockhart



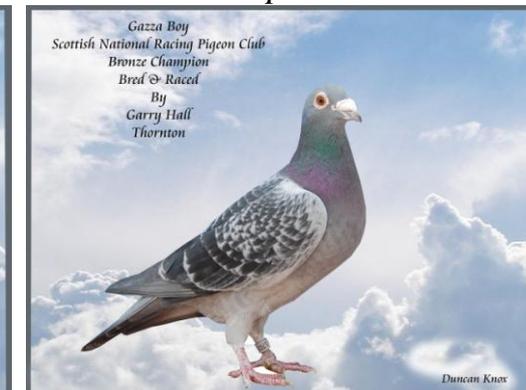
Bronze Champion P W Virtue



Bronze Champion W & S Smith



Bronze Champion N Renton



Bronze Champion G Hall

Our Annual General Meeting.

Will take place at 1pm on Saturday the 11th February at Newbridge Bowling Club, sadly this will be the last official duty for our president George Wilson who will be retiring from the post for a well earned rest after seven years great service to the club he will be missed greatly by all and will be a very hard act to follow, George put his heart and soul into this club and we will be forever in his debt for the manner and style he has guided the club forward to it's current position in British long distance racing.

Annual Dinner and Presentation

Will be held in the Cairn Hotel Bathgate on Saturday 28th January, for tickets and accommodation please contact Ian M Brown on 01577

840358 ticket costs are £25 with accommodation available Double rooms 2 persons sharing including full breakfast £53, single rooms for 1 person £38, we have to congratulate Ian and George for securing these great prices from the hotel management once again.

New Secretary

I am delighted to announce that John McFall of High Blantyre Lanarkshire has been appointed as the new secretary of the SNRPC. John who has a wealth of experience in all aspects of pigeon administration will start in his post at the annual general meeting and will liaise with our senior vice president Ian M Brown in the transition period leading up to taking over the job in February. Ian Brown has done a sterling job as caretaker secretary over the last few months in what has been a very difficult time for the club due to the untimely death of Jessie Kier our secretary, not only this but he has been invaluable to George throughout this last year as his senior vice president we are indeed very fortunate to have men like Ian who have the good of the national very much at heart.

Get Well

We send our best wishes and a speedy recovery to Gordon Geddes who has been in hospital lately for an operation; Gordon is an essential member of the management committee and together with Willie Johnston play a very important roll in the first class transportation of our pigeons.

Duncan Knox
Press Officer